

CANON VIRGINIA FACILITY RECEIVES 'ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE' DESIGNATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RICHMOND, VA. - The Canon Virginia facility in Newport News has received the Virginia Environmental Excellence Program's "Exemplary Environmental Enterprise" designation. The honor is awarded to facilities that have a comprehensive environmental management system with sound environmental performance and a commitment to pollution prevention.

"This recognition goes only to facilities that have developed a comprehensive environmental management system and achieved superior environmental performance," said Dennis H. Treacy, director of the Department of Environmental Quality. "This is testimony to Canon's commitment to protecting the environment."

"The Exemplary Environmental Enterprise designation is another significant milestone for us," said Kenji Mori, president and chief executive officer of Canon Virginia Inc. "We are committed to environmental quality, and through the dedication and cooperation of every Canon Virginia member we are able to maintain and achieve high environmental standards."

Mori received a certificate from Treacy during a ceremony today at the Newport News facility.

"Exemplary environmental enterprise" is the top level of achievement in the Virginia Environmental Excellence Program, DEQ's effort to promote the use of environmental management systems and pollution prevention for businesses, industry and government. The award is part of Virginia Innovations for Pollution Prevention, a statewide initiative designed to improve environmental quality through non-traditional approaches that reward innovation and leadership.

The Canon Virginia facility manufactures copiers, laser beam printers and toner cartridges. Canon's environmental management system is based on the international standard ISO 14001, and the facility has been ISO 14001-certified since 1999. Canon also was one of the charter members of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's program for environmental management systems. Through its waste reduction efforts, Canon has nearly eliminated its use of hazardous solvents and generation of hazardous wastes. In addition, Canon's "zero landfill" goal has helped reduce its solid waste generation by more than 99 percent.

Canon Virginia also participates in the Chesapeake Bay Program's Businesses for the Bay, a volunteer effort to assist in the restoration of the Bay through pollution prevention measures. For more information on the facility's activities, contact Monty Heuring at (757) 881-6205.